

# New Teacher Mentor Program



## Cedar Hall Community School is Making it Happen!



### WE ARE

Cedar Hall Community School is a K-8 building in Evansville, IN and is home to a little less than 600 students. The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation has roughly 23,000 students and is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest school corporation in the state of Indiana.

We are an urban school, and 98% of our families qualify for free/reduced lunch, which is one of the highest in the school corporation.

### OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

66% of our students are white, 25% are black/multiracial, and the remaining students are Hispanic or from the Marshall Islands.

### OUR TEACHERS

Cedar Hall currently has 15 teachers in their 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year of teaching, so we wanted to provide them with additional support that would create continuity for our students.

### OUR PROMISING PRACTICE

The foundation of our program relies on building relationships amongst our students, staff, and the community. Our program includes:

- Exemplary teacher panel
- Parent panel – shares the parent perspective
- Curriculum maps and our School Improvement Plan
- Financial advisor for benefits, loan forgiveness, and financial planning
- Classroom management support
- Peer observations
- Staff photo directory – “who to go to”

### OUR STEPS

We created a new teacher mentor program that allows teachers to share the experiences that most new educators have in our unique building. Due to the demands in a high poverty school, many new teachers leave before they reach their full potential. We want teachers to know they have the support of both the school and the community, so our teachers are able to reach their full potential in a short period of time. We meet once a month in one of the new teachers' classrooms, and we always begin with celebrating our current success stories.

We also provide the teachers with a form prior to each meeting so we can address any issues that have come up since our last meeting. Our peer observation partners were created with respective strengths and weaknesses, as well as content area.

**IN OUR OWN WORDS** “The New Teacher Program is like a lifeline... it's there when I need it for help and support.”

– **Haley Terhune, Second Year Teacher**

“The Mentor Program has been so helpful to me. I don't think I would still be here without the support and guidance from the mentor teachers.”

– **Anna Rogers, First Year Teacher**

For more information about our school or corporation, visit our website

<http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/EVSC>,

Like us on Facebook (Cedar Hall Community School),

Follow us on Twitter (@CHBearcats),

or email our principal Mr. Schlosser, [joe.schlosser@evsc.k12.in.us](mailto:joe.schlosser@evsc.k12.in.us)